

# THE FALCON FLYER

February 14, 2011

[www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/floral](http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/floral)



Dear Floral Street School Families,

We're excited to have what looks like another five-day week this week! It's great to build up some momentum in our work! At least until vacation arrives next week...

Which has made us think a lot about student progress in reading and how to help students keep up their reading during school breaks. In past years, when approaching February or April vacation, we have simply encouraged students and families to take some time to read, each day if possible. The research is clear that a break from reading even as short as this can impact student progress. So this week we'll be having conversations with students about taking that encouragement up a notch.

We'll do a few things to support your efforts to have your child read at home next week. Perhaps the most important is that students will be setting reading goals for the vacation week and "declaring" them. This means stating one's goal and writing it down. We'll do that here and make sure that you know what it is at home, too. When vacation ends, we'll ask students about their goals and the work they did to reach them. We hope that knowing this will happen will help students feel ownership and accountability for their reading goal.

As always, if you have any questions about what to read at home or need help getting the appropriate level texts, please be in touch with your child's classroom teacher. We appreciate your invaluable support in these efforts!

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## **From the Nurse:**

We have begun vision and hearing screenings in the nurse's office, and will continue after the vacation. If your student does not pass their vision or hearing test we will send you a referral letter informing you.

## **PTO Notes:**

### **Literacy Night – SAVE THE DATE!!!**

Floral Street School will be hosting Literacy Night on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. Please help us out by donating any gently used or new books to the book swap. We especially need books for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade level. There will be bins set up in the school lobby labeled "Book Swap" beginning Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Any questions please email Maureen Harrington at [harringtonjm@verizon.net](mailto:harringtonjm@verizon.net). Thanks so much for your help!

**Yankee Candle Fundraiser**

The PTO is conducting its Yankee Candle Spring fundraiser project from February 7<sup>th</sup> to February 18<sup>th</sup>. If you require additional order forms, or have questions, please feel free to contact Teri Blum at (508) 841-9955 or [Blum@townisp.com](mailto:Blum@townisp.com). **Please remember to submit your order forms on or before Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Elementary Lunch Menu** can be found at any time at:

<http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/departments/division.php?fDD=20-17>

**Important Dates**

February 21-25

No School – Presidents’ Day & Winter Vacation

**MCAS Dates:**

March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Long Composition – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

March 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

ELA – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

March 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

ELA – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

Math – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

May 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

Math – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

The full district school calendar is available at:

[http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/egov/docs/1276871197\\_585906.pdf](http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/egov/docs/1276871197_585906.pdf)